

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 IO-04 ISO-00 SAB-01 SAM-01 AID-05 SAJ-01

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 SCCT-01 CIEP-01 EB-04 SR-02 ORM-01

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2852

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY JUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

GENEVA FOR MEPCDEL

LONDON FOR LAMBRAKIS

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SUBJECT: JORDANIAN PRESS COVERAGE OF RABAT SUMMIT

1. SUMMARY: FINAL DECISIONS OF RABAT SUMMIT RECEIVE BANNER HEADLINE TREATMENT OCTOBER 30 IN JORDANIAN PRESS. NEWS ARTICLES STRESS FACT THAT JORDAN WILL NOT ATTEND GENEVA CONFERENCE, WHILE EDITORIALS VARIOUSLY REGRET SUMMIT DECISIONS, PRAISE KING HUSSEIN FOR HIS STAND, AND ONE WRITER BIDS FAREWELL TO PALESTINIANS RESIDENT ON EAST BANK. END SUMMARY.

2. ALL JORDANIAN DAILIES OCTOBER 30 GIVE BANNER HEADLINE COVERAGE TO FINAL MEETING OF RABAT SUMMIT. GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED AR-RAYY: "JORDAN WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE, BUT WILL SUPPORT PLO DIPLOMATICALLY AND POLITICALLY IN NEGOTIATIONS." AD-DUSTOUR HEADLINES: "DETAILS OF FINAL RABAT SUMMIT MEETING HELD EARLY THIS MORNING; HASSAN II, KING HUSSEIN, AND YASIR 'ARAFAT LEAVE CONFERENCE HALL HAND IN HAND." AS-SABAH: "DECISIONS OF RABAT SUMMIT: \$2350 MILLION ANNUALLY FOR CONFRONTATION COUNTRIES." DAILIES PRINT JORDAN NEWS AGENCY REPORTS QUOTING "HIGH OFFICIAL IN JORDANIAN DELEGATION AT RABAT" AS SAYING THAT JORDAN "WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE UPCOMING GENEVA TALKS..NOW THAT THE ARAB SUMMIT HAS TRANSFERRED THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE WEST BANK AFTER ITS LIBERATION TO THE PLO. JORDAN WILL, HOWEVER, SUPPORT THE PLO DIPLOMATICALLY AND POLITICALLY IN THIS RESPECT". AR-RAYY QUOTES "THE SPOKESMAN FOR THE JORDANIAN DELEGATION" AS CATEGORICALLY DENYING RUMORS TO EFFECT THAT KING HUSSEIN REFUSED TO SIGN TEXT OF AGREEMENT CONCLUDED MONDAY TERMINATING JORDANIAN-PLO DISPUTE. "THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE AGREEMENT WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY.... AND WAS CONCLUDED ONLY DUE TO THE INITIATIVE OF KING HUSSEIN. A MOROCCAN SOURCE SAID THAT THE TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT WAS PUT IN FINAL FORM ONLY AFTER KING HUSSEIN HAD APPROVED IT."

3. DAILIES REPORT THAT RABAT SUMMIT DECIDED THAT EGYPT, SYRIA, JORDAN AND PLO WILL HOLD MEETINGS IN AMMAN, CAIRO AND DAMASCUS SOON IN ORDER TO CONSIDER STEPS TO BE TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT SUMMIT DECISIONS. ALL PAPERS MENTION SUMMIT DECISION TO GIVE \$2.35 BILLION IN AID TO CONFRONTATION COUNTRIES, DISTRIBUTED AS FOLLOWS: JORDAN, \$250 MILLION; EGYPT, \$1 BILLION; SYRIA \$1 BILLION; PLO \$100 MILLION. DAILIES ALSO MENTION THAT LEADERS OF MOROCCO, LEBANON, AND PLO AS WELL AS ALL ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS, WILL ATTEND UNGA DEBATE ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PALESTINIAN ISSUE.

4. IN SURPRISINGLY FRANK EDITORIAL CONSIDERING GENERAL GOJ CENSORSHIP WEEKLY AL-LIWA, UNOFFICIAL EAST BANK MOUTHPIECE, PRINTS BITTER LENGTHY FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL GIVING SARCASTIC BEST WISHES TO PALESTINIANS. UNDER TITLE "CONGRATULATIONS," EDITORIAL CONTINUES, "1000 CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEART, FOR THE ARABS HAVE ACHIEVED ONE OF THEIR LEGITIMATE

ASPIRATIONS: GAINING A HOMELAND...WE THE JORDANIANS, AS WE
LEARNED FROM KING HUSSEIN, WHO HEADED THE DELEGATION WHICH
BLESSED THE CREATION OF THIS NATIONAL HOME, ASSERT THAT THERE
WAS NO LOSS....THE ARAB LEADERS HAVE BY
CAJOLERY AND DECEIT THROWN THE BRUNT OF THE ISSUE ON THE
PALESTINIANS AND CAN RELAX NOW THAT THEY HAVE WASHED THEIR HANDS
OF THE PROBLEM...NOW COMES THE ROLE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.
THE FIRST DUTY OF EVERY PALESTINIAN IS TO HASTEN TO RETURN TO HIS
LAND, OCCUPIED PALESTINE. IT IS TIME FOR THE FIGHTERS TO REST AND FOR

THE REFUGEES...TO RETURN TO THEIR LAND. NATIONAL DUTY DEMANDS THAT
THEY ALL PACK UP AND RETURN TO THEIR PROPERTIES ON THE WEST BANK,
TO CONTINUE THE STRUGGLE TO LIBERATE THE LAND FROM INSIDE THE
OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. OTHERWISE, THE PALESTINIANS...WILL BE A
PEOPLE WITHOUT LEADERS AND WILL CAIM A LAND WITHOUT MEN. NEVER-
THELESS, A THOUSAND CONGRATUALATIONS."

5. AL-LIWA ALSO PRINTED A SECOND FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL, "A FAREWELL
MESSAGE." TO BROTHERS, WHILE YOU ARE PACKING YOUR LUGGAGE TO RETURN
TO YOUR HOMES, WHICH STILL EXIST IN THE FANTASIES OF THOSE LEADING YOU,

WE WHISPER TO YOU THAT WE ACCEPTED YOU AT A TIME WHEN NO OTHER ARAB
WOULD, AND THESE ARMS, DESPITE THEIR WOUNDS, WILL ALWAYS REMAIN READY
TO EMBRACE YOU...WHILE BIDDING YOU FAREWELL, WE REMIND YOU OF THE
GRAVES OF OUR SONS WHO DIED ON YOUR SOIL BECAUSE THEY THOUGHT THAT
IT WAS ALSO THEIR SOIL. WE SHALL REMEMBER THE TIES BETWEEN US, SO
WHISPER TO YOUR CHILDREN THAT THEY HAVE RELATIVES EAST OF THE RIVER...

BUT NOW THE JOINT MARCH HAS ENDED. DESPITE THE DAGGER WHICH HAS
PIERCED THE OLIEST UNITY WHICH THE ARABS HAVE KNOWN IN
THEIR MODER HISTORY, WE SHALL ALWAYS WELCOME ALL THOSE...
WHO ARE SEARCHING FOR A CITIZENSHIP, SINCE THEIR OWN ORGANIZATION
(PLO?) IS INCAPABLE OF PROVIDING THEM ONE."

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6. EDITORIALS IN OTHER DAILIES TAKE MORE CONVENTIAL LINE.
AD-DUSTOUR EDITORIAL PRAISES STAND OF KING HUSSEIN. "KING HUSSEIN
HAS AGAIN PROVED THAT HE IS THE POWER THAT BUILDS...HE WARNED THAT
LIBERATION OF THE LAND MUST COME FIRST. HOWEVER THE CONFERENCE
DECIDED TO ACCEPT THE FIVE ARTICLES.." IN EDITORIAL ENTITLED,
"IN LOYALTY TO PRINCIPLES." AR-RAYY NOTES: "HUSSEIN DEFENDED WHAT
HE BELIEVED WAS RIGHT, AND LEFT IT FOR THE ARAB LEADERS TO DECIDE.
FINAL JUDGEMENT ON WHAT WAS ADOPTED WILL BE LEFT FOR HISTORY, BUT
JORDAN WILL REMAIN FAITHFUL TO ITS NATIONALPRINCIPLES."

7. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH JORDANIANS ARE PLEASED WITH LARGE AID
PACKAGE AND SOME EAST BANK JORDANIANS RE GLEEFUL OVER ALLEGED
JORDANIAN DECISION NOT TO GO TO GENEVA, GENERAL REACTION TO REAL
SUMMIT STILL CONFUSED PENDING RETURN OF KING HUSSEIN AND JORDANIAN

DELEGATION, WHICH EXPECTED TODAY. EDITORIAL INSINUATING POSSIBLE
EVICTON OF PALESTINIAN RESIDENTS OF JORDAN HAS CREATED SOME
ADVERSE REACTION AMONG PALESTINANS BUT, GIVEN ITS APPEARANCE IN
PRIVATE AND LIMITED-CIRCULATION WEEKLY, ITS EFFECT SHOULD
NOT BE OVER-EMPHASIZED.
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